

and revised public employee only plan and narrative description (including background information on program operations) were approved by the Assistant Secretary on August 3, 1983.

(b) In accordance with 29 CFR 1956.43(a), Connecticut's safety and health poster for public employees only was approved by the Assistant Secretary on August 3, 1983.

(c) In accordance with 29 CFR 1956.43(b), Connecticut has promulgated standards identical to all basic Federal standards in 29 CFR parts 1910, 1926, and 1928. The State has continued to adopt Federal standards, amendments and corrections as noted in separate standards approval notices.

(d) In accordance with 29 CFR 1956.43(c), Connecticut promulgated rules for inspections, citations, and proposed penalties (Administrative Regulation Section 31-371-1 through 20) parallel to 29 CFR part 1903; recording and reporting occupational injuries and illness (Administrative Regulation Section 31-374-1 through 15 parallel to 29 CFR part 1904; rules of practices for variances (Administrative Regulation Section 31-372-1 through 51) parallel to 29 CFR part 1905; and review commission procedures (Administrative Regulation Section 31-376-1 through 61) parallel to 29 CFR part 2200. In addition, Connecticut adopted Field Operations and Industrial Hygiene Manuals identical to the Federal. These supplements were approved by the Assistant Secretary on August 3, 1983.

(e) In accordance with 29 CFR 1956.43(d), Connecticut's employee discrimination provisions (Administrative Regulation Section 31-379-1 through 22) were approved by the Assistant Secretary on August 3, 1983.

(f) In accordance with 29 CFR 1956.43(e), Connecticut's comprehensive list classifying governmental entities covered by the plan was approved by the Assistant Secretary on August 3, 1983.

(g) In accordance with 29 CFR 1956.10(g), a State is required to have a sufficient number of adequately trained and competent personnel to discharge its responsibilities under the plan. The Connecticut Public Employee Only State plan provides for three (3) safety compliance officers and

one (1) health compliance officer as set forth in the Connecticut Fiscal Year 1986 grant. This staffing level meets the "fully effective" benchmarks established for Connecticut for both safety and health.

(h) In accordance with § 1956.23 of this chapter, the Connecticut occupational safety and health public employee only plan was certified effective August 19, 1986 as having completed all developmental steps specified in the plan as approved October 2, 1978, on or before October 2, 1979. This certification attests to the structured completeness of the plan, but does not render judgment on adequacy of performance.

[48 FR 37027, Aug. 16, 1983, as amended at 51 FR 32454, Sept. 12, 1986]

Subpart F—New York

AUTHORITY: Secs. 8(g), 18, 84 Stat. 1600, 1608 (29 U.S.C. 657(g), 667); 29 CFR part 1956, Secretary of Labor's Order 9-83 (48 FR 35736).

SOURCE: 49 FR 23000, June 1, 1984, unless otherwise noted.

§ 1956.50 Description of the plan as initially approved.

(a) *Authority and scope.* The New York State Plan for Public Employee Occupational Safety and Health received initial OSHA approval on June 1, 1984. The plan designates the New York Department of Labor as the State agency responsible for administering the plan throughout the State. The plan includes legislation, the New York Act (Public Employees Safety and Health Act, Chapter 729 of the Laws of 1980), enacted in 1980, and amended on April 30, 1984, to clarify the State's right of entry for inspection authority. Under this legislation, the Industrial Commissioner (now the Commissioner of Labor), has full authority to enforce and administer all laws and rules protecting the safety and health of all employees of the State and its political subdivisions. In response to OSHA concern that language in section 27-a(2) of the New York Act, regarding the Commissioner of Education's authority with respect to school buildings, raised questions about the coverage under the plan of public school employees, New York submitted amendments to its

plan consisting of Counsel's opinion and assurance that public school employees are fully covered under the terms of the New York Act. In a March 4, 1984 letter from Lee O. Smith, Deputy Commissioner of Labor for Legal Affairs, New York indicated that the Commissioner of Education's authority applies only to ensuring the safety and health of pupils, and that the Commissioner of Labor has exclusive authority to enforce occupational safety and health standards covering public employees in school buildings. Furthermore, New York has provided assurance that should the Department of Labor's interpretation on coverage of public school employees be challenged successfully, appropriate legislative correction would be sought.

(b) *Standards.* The New York plan provides for the adoption of all Federal OSHA standards promulgated as of July 31, 1983, and for the incorporation of any subsequent revisions or additions thereto in a timely manner, including in response to Federal OSHA emergency temporary standards. The procedure for adoption of Federal OSHA standards calls for publication of the Commissioner of Labor's intent to adopt a standard in the *New York State Register* 30 days prior to such adoption. Subsequent to adoption and upon filing of the standard with the Secretary of State, a notice of final action will be published as soon as is practicable in the *State Register*. The plan also provides for the adoption of alternative or different occupational safety and health standards if a determination is made by the State that an issue is not properly addressed by OSHA standards and is relevant to the safety and health of public employees. In such cases, the State shall propose legislation mandating the development of an alternative standard to protect the safety and health of public employees. The procedures for adoption of alternative standards will contain criteria for development and consideration of expert technical knowledge in the field to be addressed by the standard, and provisions allowing interested persons to submit information requesting development or promulgation of any standard and to participate in any hearing

for the development, modification or establishment of standards.

(c) *Variances.* The plan includes provisions for the granting of permanent and temporary variances from State standards in terms substantially similar to the variance provisions contained in the Federal Act. The State provisions require employee notification of variance applications as well as employee rights to participate in hearings held on variance applications. Variances may not be granted unless it is established that adequate protection is afforded employees under the terms of the variance.

(d) *Employee notice and discrimination protection.* The plan provides for notification to employees of their protections and obligations under the plan by such means as a State poster, and required posting of notices of violations. The plan also provides for protection of employees against discharge or discrimination resulting from exercise of their rights under the State's Act in terms essentially identical to section 11(c) of the Federal Act.

(e) *Inspections and enforcement.* The plan provides for inspection of covered workplaces including inspections in response to employee complaints. If a determination is made that an employee complaint does not warrant an inspection, the complainant shall be notified, in writing, of such determination and afforded an opportunity to seek informal review of the determination. The plan also provides the opportunity for employer and employee representatives to accompany the inspector during an inspection for the purpose of aiding in the inspection. The plan also provides for right of entry for inspection and prohibition of advance notice of inspection. In lieu of monetary penalties for violations, the plan establishes a scheme of enforcement for compelling compliance under which public employers are issued notices of violation and orders to comply, for any violation of standards and orders. Such notices will fix a reasonable time for compliance. The Commissioner of Labor may seek judicial enforcement (mandamus actions) of orders to comply by commencing a proceeding pursuant to Article 78 of the New York Civil Practice

Law and Rules against public employers who fail to abide by the requirements of the order.

(f) *Review procedures.* Under the plan, employers, employees and other affected parties may seek informal review with the Department of Labor of a notice of violation, including the reasonableness of the abatement period, and/or may seek formal administrative review with the Industrial Board of Appeals, the independent State agency authorized by section 27-a(6)(c) of the New York Act to consider petitions from affected parties for review of the Commissioner of Labor's determinations pursuant to the New York Act. The "Rules of Practice and Procedure" of the Industrial Board of Appeals also permit public employees or their representatives to participate in the review process when a public employer contests a notice. Judicial review of the decision of the Industrial Board of Appeals may be sought pursuant to Article 78 of the New York Civil Practice Law and Rules. The period fixed in the plan for contesting notices of violation is 60 calendar days, which is significantly longer than the 15 working day period allowed under the Federal OSHA program. However, New York has provided assurance, by Counsel's opinion of March 4, 1984, that it has the authority under Article 78 of the New York Civil Practice Law and Rules to obtain judicial enforcement of an uncontested order to comply upon expiration of the period stipulated for abatement, regardless of whether the 60 day contest period has expired or not. New York has also assured that should the State Labor Department's interpretation be challenged successfully appropriate legislative correction would be sought.

(g) *Staffing and resources.* The plan provides assurances of a fully trained, adequate staff, including 30 safety and 8 health compliance officers for enforcement inspections and 10 safety and 12 health consultants to perform consultation services in the public sector. The State has also given satisfactory assurances of adequate funding to support the plan. In addition, the plan assures that New York will meet the compliance staffing benchmarks established pursuant to the terms of the

court order in *AFL-CIO v. Marshall* (CA 74-406).

(h) *Records and reports.* The plan provides that public employers in New York will maintain appropriate records and make timely reports on occupational injuries and illnesses in a manner substantially identical to that required for private sector employers under Federal OSHA. New York has assured that it will continue its participation in the Bureau of Labor Statistics Annual Survey of Injuries and Illnesses and will include the public sector under its plan after approval. The plan also contains assurances that the Commissioner of Labor will provide reports to OSHA in such form as the Assistant Secretary may require, and that New York will participate in OSHA's Integrated Management Information System.

(i) *Voluntary compliance programs.* The plan provides that training will be provided to public employers and employees; seminars will be conducted to familiarize affected individuals with OSHA standards and requirements (as adopted by New York), and safe work practices; an on-site consultation program in the public sector will be established to provide services to public employers who so desire; and, all State agencies and political subdivisions will be encouraged to develop and maintain self-inspection programs as an adjunct to but not substitute for the Commissioner of Labor's enforcement inspections.

§ 1956.51 Developmental schedule.

The New York plan is developmental. The following is a schedule of major developmental steps as provided in the plan:

(a) Adopt all OSHA standards promulgated as of July 1, 1983 (within three months after plan approval).

(b) Promulgate regulations for inspections, citations and abatement, equivalent to 29 CFR part 1903 (within three years after plan approval).

(c) Submit State poster (within six months after plan approval).

(d) Extend BLS Survey of Injuries and Illnesses to State and local government (within one year after plan approval).